

Message Text

SECRET

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ORIGIN SCA-01

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 ITF-05 EA-06 SR-02 ORM-01 DODE-00

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DRAFTED BY: SCA:ANTIPPAS

APPROVED BY: ITF:LDBROWN

EA:BMILLER

S/ORM:BEECHAM

S/S-O:J. HOGANSON

DIST: JCS/JSC/SA

DOD/ISA

CNO

JLO

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MANILA NIACT IMMEDIATE

USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

INFO COMSEVENTHFLT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

CINCPACFLT

CINCPACREP

CINCPAC

MOMNAVBASE SUBIC

S E C R E T STATE 100938

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AEMR, SREF, CB, RP

SUBJECT: CAMBODIAN NAVAL SHIPS

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FOR AMBASSADOR SULLIVAN FROM DEAN BROWN

REF: MANILA 5510

1. WE HAVE FOLLOWED WITH CONCERN THE PLIGHT OF THE 600 KHMER WHO WERE REFUSED ENTRY INTO MALAYSIA AND WHOM WE EXPECTED TO GO TO SATTAHIP BUT WHO UNEXPECTEDLY HEADED FOR THE PHILIPPINES. WE REALIZE THAT YOU ARE UNDER A GREAT DEAL OF PRESSURE FROM THE GOP.

2. IN OUR CONSULTATIONS WITH CONGRESS CONCERNING THE PROBLEM OF CAMBODIAN EVACUEES AS DISTINCT FROM VIETNAMESE EVACUEES, WE INDICATED THAT WE TOOK DIRECT RESPONSIBILITY FOR SOME 1000 KHMER AIRLIFTED BY US ASSETS FROM CAMBODIANS. THESE INDIVIDUALS ARE NOW BEING PROCESSED FOR ONWARD MOVEMENT FROM THAILAND TO THE US DIRECTLY.

3. ADDITIONALLY, WE ASKED THE CONGRESS TO AGREE TO PAROLE UP TO 5000 KHMER THAT FIND THEMSELVES TRAPPED ABROAD AND UNABLE TO SETTLE WHEREEVER THEY FIND THEMSELVES. THIS GROUP INCLUDES DIPLOMATS, STUDENTS AND THE BULK CONSIST OF THOSE WHO ARRIVED IN THAILAND BY THEIR OWN MEANS. THE CONGRESS AGREED GENERALLY WITH THIS PROPOSITION BUT SPECIFICALLY STATED THAT IT WISHED OTHERS TO TAKE SOME RESPONSIBILITY FOR INDOCHINA REFUGEES IN GENERAL AND FOR THESE 5,000 KHMER IN PARTICULAR. CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS WHOM WE APPROACHED SPECIFICALLY STATED THAT UN AGENCIES SUCH AS THE UNHCR OR THE ICRC OR ICEM BE ASKED TO ASSIST. HAPPILY UNHCR HAS AGREED TO ASSIST CAMBODIANS ABROAD FEARFUL OF RETURNING HOME. FYI. HOWEVER, IT IS VERY CLEAR THAT ONCE REFUGEES REACH US SOIL HOWEVER REMOVED THE EFFORT TO INTERNATIONALIZE BECOMES MORE DIFFICULT IF NOT IMPOSSIBLE. END FYI.

4. THEREFORE WE MUST ASK YOU TO APPROACH THE GOP AND DETERMINE IF IT WILL ACCEPT THESE CAMBODIANS AND GRANT THEM ASYLUM. FAILING THIS YOU SHOULD, ON THEIR BEHALF, ASK THAT THEY AT LEAST BE PERMITTED TO LAND AT SUBIC PENDING DISPOSITION OF THEIR CASE. IF THERE ARE INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN AGENCIES PRESENT IN THE PHILIPPINES

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SUCH AS THOSE CITED ABOVE THEY SHOULD BE IMMEDIATELY APPROACHED AND REQUESTED TO TAKE THE CAMBODIANS IN CHARGE.

5. YOU MAY USE THE SUBSTANCE OF THE ABOVE IN YOUR DISCUSSIONS WITH THE GOP AND ASSURE IT THAT CARE AND MAINTENANCE OF THE CAMBODIANS WILL BE THE US RESPONSIBILITY UNTIL SITUATION IS RESOLVED.

6. REPORT REACTIONS SOONEST FOR FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS
AND GUIDANCE.

7. FOR GENEVA; REQUEST YOU APPROACH UNHCR ASAP AND ASK
THEIR PARTICULAR INTERVENTION ON BEHALF OF THE 600
CAMBODIAN REFUGEES ABOARD SEVERAL PATROL VESSELS AND
POSSIBLY UNABLE TO LAND IN THE PHILIPPINES. KISSINGER

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